

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

1-50. **(Canceled)**

51. **(Currently amended)** A method for inhibiting a humoral immune response in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a soluble lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT β R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that a humoral immune response is inhibited.

52. **(Canceled)**

53. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 51, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

54. **(Canceled)**

55. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 51, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

56. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 51, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

57-58. **(Canceled)**

59. **(Previously presented)** The method according to any of claims 51, 53, 55 or 56, wherein the mammal is a human.

60-70. **(Canceled)**

71. **(Currently amended)** A method for inhibiting a humoral immune response by inhibiting LT- β receptor signaling without inhibiting TNF-R signaling in a subject comprising administering to a subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amount of a soluble lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that a humoral immune response is inhibited by inhibiting LT- β receptor signaling without inhibiting TNF-R signaling.

72. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the subject comprises one or more cells from a mammal.

73. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 72, wherein the mammal is a human.

74. **(Canceled)**

75. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

76. **(Canceled)**

77. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

78. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

79-83. **(Canceled)**

84. **(Currently amended)** A method for disrupting the association of immune complexes and B cell follicles in a subject comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an amount of a soluble lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the association of immune complexes and B cell follicles is disrupted.

85. **(Canceled)**

86. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

87. **(Canceled)**

88. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins and transferrin.

89. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

90-94. **(Canceled)**

95. **(Currently amended)** A method of treating an antibody-mediated autoimmune disorder in a subject suffering from an autoimmune disorder, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a soluble lymphotxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the antibody-mediated autoimmune disorder is treated.

96. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 95, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of Myasthenia gravis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura (ITP), systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), Wegener's granulomatosis, polyarteritis nodosa, and rapidly progressive crescentic glomerulonephritis.

97. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 95, wherein the autoimmune disorder is a chronic inflammatory disease.

98. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 97, wherein the chronic inflammatory disease is Chagas' disease or Grave's disease.

99. **(Canceled)**

100. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 95, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

101. **(Canceled)**

102. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 95, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

103. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 95, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

104. **(Currently amended)** A method of inhibiting a humoral response in a subject suffering from a hypersensitivity response, comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a soluble lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that a humoral response is inhibited.

105. **(Canceled)**

106. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 104, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

107. **(Canceled)**

108. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 104, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

109. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 104, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

110. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 104, wherein the hypersensitivity response is a type I response.

111. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 104, wherein the hypersensitivity response is a type II or type III response.

112. **(Currently amended)** A method of inhibiting a humoral response associated with graft rejection in a subject comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a soluble lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprising at least one ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand fused to one or more heterologous protein domains and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the humoral immune response associated with graft rejection is inhibited.

113. **(Canceled)**

114. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 112, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, or a functional fragment thereof.

115. **(Canceled)**

116. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 112, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins, and transferrin.

117. **(Previously presented)** The method according to claim 112, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

118. **(Previously presented)** The method according to any of claims 51, 71 or 84, wherein the soluble lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT β -R) comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

119. **(Currently amended)** A method for inhibiting a humoral immune response in a human comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT β R) comprising SEQ ID NO: 1 fused to a human IgG1 Fc domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the humoral immune response is inhibited.

120. **(Currently amended)** A method for inhibiting a humoral immune response by inhibiting LT- β receptor signaling without inhibiting TNF-R signaling in a human comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT β R) comprising SEQ ID NO: 1 fused to a human IgG1 Fc domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the humoral immune response is inhibited by inhibiting LT- β receptor signaling without inhibiting TNF-R signaling.

121. **(Currently amended)** A method for disrupting the association of immune complexes and B cell follicles in a human comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT β R) comprising SEQ ID NO: 1 fused to a human IgG1 Fc domain and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that the association of immune complexes and B cell follicles is disrupted.